

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 4, 9 and 14 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Please amend Claims 1 to 3, 5 to 8 and 10 to 13 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An electric charging apparatus for charging a secondary battery that is held in the apparatus and being attachable/removable to/from an electronic apparatus a printer main body, the printer being driven by electric power from the secondary battery which charges a secondary battery to supply electric power to the electronic apparatus, comprising:

a communication unit configured to perform communication with the electronic apparatus printer;

determination means for determining an electric charging condition for electrically charging the secondary battery; and

control means for controlling electric charging of the secondary battery in correspondence accordance with an electric charging control signal for the secondary battery, received transmitted from the electronic apparatus via said communication unit from the printer in correspondence with a state in which a print head of the printer is capped, and the electric charging condition determined by said determination means.

2. (Currently Amended) The charging apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

an input terminal configured to input an electric power from a commercial power source; and

power source relay means for supplying the electric power supplied via said input terminal to the ~~electronic apparatus~~ printer, and relay-outputting the electric power for the electric charging of the secondary battery.

3. (Currently Amended) An electric charging apparatus for charging a secondary battery that is held in the apparatus and being attachable/removable to/from an electronic apparatus a printer main body, the printer being driven by electric power from the secondary battery which charges a secondary battery to supply an electric power to the ~~electronic apparatus~~, comprising:

supply means for supplying the electric power from the secondary battery to the ~~electronic apparatus~~ printer;

reception means for receiving a signal from the ~~electronic apparatus~~ printer;

charge control means for starting electric charging of the secondary battery in a case where a condition for electric charging the secondary battery is satisfied, when it is instructed by the signal received by said reception means to turn off the printer; and

control means for, when it is instructed by the signal received by said reception means to shut off a power source, stopping electric power supply from the secondary battery by said supply means, after completion of the electric charging of the secondary battery by said charge control means.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) ~~An electronic apparatus~~ A printer, which an

electric charging unit including a secondary battery is attachable/removable to/from, and which can be operated with electric power supply from the secondary battery included in the electric charging unit, comprising:

a communication unit configured to perform communication with the electric charging unit; and

transmission control means for transmitting an electric charging control signal for the secondary battery to the electric charging unit via said communication unit, in a case that a print head of the printer is capped.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~electronic apparatus~~ printer according to claim 5, ~~further comprising:~~

wherein the electric charging unit includes an input terminal configured to input an electric power from a commercial power source, [[:]]

and wherein the printer further comprises:

determination means for determining whether or not electric charging of the secondary battery is necessary; and

control means for, in a status where the electric power is supplied via said input terminal, if said determination means determines that the electric charging of the secondary battery is necessary, controlling said transmission control means to transmit [[a]] the electric charging control signal indicating that the electric charging of the secondary battery is enabled.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~electronic apparatus~~ printer according to

claim 5, further comprising power-source shut-off signal transmission control means for transmitting a signal indicating power-source shut-off to the electric charging unit via said communication unit.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~electronic apparatus~~ printer according to claim 5, wherein said ~~electronic apparatus is an image forming apparatus, and~~ wherein when an ~~image forming instruction~~ a print command is inputted from an external device while the electric charging unit electrically charges the secondary battery, said control means controls said transmission control means to transmit a signal indicating that the electric charging of the secondary battery is disabled.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~electronic apparatus~~ printer according to claim 9, wherein said ~~image forming apparatus~~ printer is an ink jet printing apparatus which forms an image on the printing medium by discharging ink from the print head.

11. (Currently Amended) An electric charging control method in an electric charging apparatus for charging a secondary battery that is held in the apparatus and being attachable/removable to/from an electronic apparatus a printer main body, the printer being driven by electric power from the secondary battery which electrically charges a secondary battery to supply an electric power to the electronic apparatus, said method comprising:

a supply step of supplying the electric power from the secondary battery to the ~~electronic apparatus~~ printer;

a determination step of determining an electric charging condition for electrically charging the secondary battery;

a reception step of receiving an electric charging control signal for the secondary battery from the ~~electronic apparatus~~ printer, in correspondence with a state of the printer; and

a control step of controlling electrically charging of the secondary battery in ~~correspondence~~ accordance with the electric charging control signal received in said reception step and the electric charging condition determined in said determination step.

12. (Currently Amended) A control method for an electric charging apparatus for charging a secondary battery that is held in the apparatus and being attachable/removable to/from an electronic apparatus a printer main body, the printer being driven by electric power from the secondary battery which electrically charges a secondary battery to supply an electric power to the electronic apparatus, said method comprising:

a supply step of supplying the electric power from the secondary battery to the ~~electronic apparatus~~ printer;

a reception step of receiving a signal from the ~~electronic apparatus~~ printer;

a charge control step of starting electric charging of the secondary battery in a case where a condition for electric charging the secondary battery is satisfied, when it is instructed by the signal received in said reception step to turn off the printer; and

a control step of, ~~when it is instructed by the signal received in said reception step to shut off a power source~~; stopping electric power supply from the

secondary battery, after completion of the electric charge of the secondary battery in said charge control step.

13. (Currently Amended) An electric charging control method for an electronic apparatus of a printer, which an electric charging unit including a secondary battery is attachable/removable to/from, and which can be operated with electric power supply from the secondary battery included in the electric charging unit, said method comprising:

a transmission control step of periodically transmitting an electric charging control signal for the secondary battery to the electric charging unit, in a case where a state of the printer is a predetermined state; and

a step of changing a status of the electric charging control signal and transmitting the electric charging control signal whose status is changed to the electric charging unit, in a case where the state of the printer is changed from the predetermined state to another state.

14. (Cancelled)